**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub**

**Douglas County**

**Community Governance Council**

***November 12, 2019***

***4:30 – 6:30 pm***

***Minutes***

**Council Members:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Barbara Johnson, *Business (Chair)* |  | Heather Murphy, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Diane Dunas, *Private School Representative* |
|  | Steve Schenewerk, *Faith Representative (Vice Chair)* |  | Marta Queant, *Language Specialist* |  | Bob Dannenhoffer, *Medical Representative* |
|  | Dave Gianotti, *School Superintendent* |  | Jan Zurate, *School Superintendent* |  | Betty Wagner, *Social Worker, Therapist* |
|  | Tammie Hunt, *Cow Creek Representative* |  | Christine Seals, *CCO Representative* |  | Bryan Trenkle, *Non-Profit Director* |
|  | Tim Freeman, *Business* |  | Maureen Short, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Debra Thatcher, *UCC President* |
|  | Michael Lasher, *ESD Superintendent* |  | Charlene Stutes, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Desta Welsh, *DHS Representative* |
|  | Shawn Lybarger, *Professional Advisory Chair* |  | Sherri Vogt, *Parent Representative* |  |  |

**Staff Present:**

Athena Wikstrom, Cynthia Hurkes, Cory Ortega, Vanessa Pingleton, Susan Stiles-Sumstine, Julie Hurley, Gillian Wesenberg

**Others Present:**

Marsha LaVerne, Heidi McGowan, Mandy Rigsby, Heather Freilinger, Mandy Rigsby, Sondra Williams, Trish Orr

| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decisions/Action/Next Steps** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome/Introductions** |  | **Barbara Johnson** |
| **Approve October minutes** | No required updates. |  |
| **Action Items** | No action items were carried forward. |  |
| Director’s Report | Gillian updated the group on the Early Care and Education Sector Plan and reviewed the phase one templates and toolkit with the group. | **Gillian Wesenberg** |
| ***Early Care and Education Sector Plan*** | The group reviewed parent survey data provided by Children’s Institute and Pacific Research and Evaluation. The number one priority for parents was a trustworthy caregiver. Other priorities were cost, flexibility of hours, transportation / location and being culturally responsive. We want to be inclusive of those who are going to apply for Preschool Promise and Oregon Prekindergarten in the plan, because it will be helpful when they submit a Request for Application.  Everyone perused the Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) Report Key Findings three-pager which called out elementary school catchment areas with high levels of poverty and diversity. The Early Learning Division would like us to layer the priorities and call out key geographic areas which could include catchment areas. There may be multiple priority populations within the layer (ie. Poverty, developmental delays/disabilities, geographically isolated.) From that data, these questions were discussed as a group:   * What stands out from what you know of your families?   + It’s especially difficult to find child care when children have special needs.   + Parents are using social media and Craigslist to find care and are going to child care places sight unseen.   + Businesses whose workers have non-traditional schedules are saying that their employees are having difficulties finding child care.   + Child care providers are not paid a lot. We need to support the profession by providing access to training and education. * Does this information match what we know about Douglas County? Anything surprising or anything that was missed?   + Myrtle Creek Elementary has a high percentage of children with developmental delays. They had five elementary age children last year that were deaf/hard of hearing, one preschool child this year who is deaf/hard of hearing.   + Days Creek, Tiller, and Glendale are very isolated geographically.   + Fir Grove Elementary has a high number of children receiving care for disabilities. There are two different types of special needs classes at Fir Grove. They also have deaf/hard of hearing children.   + Surprised that Winchester was not on Free/Reduced Lunch list. * Do you know of a program or school that is willing and able to consider expansion or starting up a preschool or child care in the region?   + Head Start has room to expand their infant/toddler class by 16 students in Early Head Start in the Winchester area.   + Family Development Center would like to have a Preschool Promise classroom added.   + Family providers who applied for Preschool Promise last RFA   + Geneva Academy is opening a day care and would like to have additional services   + Cobb Street   + Days Creek   + North Douglas and Yoncalla would like to expand by two classrooms   + Roseburg Public Schools-would like a preschool at every elementary school but space is an issue.   + Explore churches   + Explore 24-hour care in Canyonville through the Tribe | **Heidi McGowan** |
| **Wrap-up / Partner Updates** | **EI/ECSE** - There has been a lot of growth in the last few years. The Student Success Act mandate is to increase service levels to adequate. The difficulty is finding qualified staff. A second ECSE classroom is opening at Green Elementary and an additional classroom for social-emotional learning needs (up to five students) and typical peers (up to eight students) is being created at Eastwood. The children need to be in the Roseburg School District. This year is a pilot year and it will begin in January. Families can apply on the Roseburg School District website.  **TakeRoot** - In January they are partnering with Yoncalla for Nurturing Parenting for adolescents, focusing on Middle School age. This class supports Yoncalla’s DHS parenting pilot site for adolescents. The youth will come as well and will learn topics in another room then meet together at the end. Nurturing Parenting for Fathers is taking place in Sutherlin. TakeRoot is partnering with the Perinatal Taskforce to do two parent groups for newborns to one-year-olds using Incredible Infants Curriculum. The groups will meet every three to four weeks.  **Umpqua Health Alliance (UHA**) - Umpqua Health Alliance just hired a new Behavioral Health Director, Rob McAdam. New Day (pregnant mothers) and Healthy Start are part of a clinical trial with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) through University of Oregon. The four-year grant focuses on moms in recovery and includes an online clinical trial and online parenting classes. UHA is having a presentation and Q & A at the Tribal office tomorrow (November 22) at 3 on CCO 2.0.  **CCRR** – PreK Network through The Ford Family Foundation took 18 teachers and assistants to the Opal School in Portland. Many left the Opal School feeling invigorated. There will be a Literacy and Language training this weekend (November 23).  **Head Start** – Head Start is working on hiring staff for expansion. Moving one more class from part day to full day is their current capacity for Preschool Expansion.  **Public Health** - Public Health is looking to implement the Governor’s vision for Universal Home Visiting. They need to build staff and overcome the barrier of parents being hesitant to have Home Visiting. The alignment with the Hub Region is still underway as Home Health Regions are very different, Douglas, Coos, and Curry are aligned in Public Health.  **Deaf / Hard of Hearing** – The Deaf / Hard of Hearing services are growing and are still not able to serve everyone. Douglas County does not have an educational audiologist, EI / ECSE is pulling in an audiologist quarterly and is allowing school age children to be tested. The educational audiologist is doing cochlear implant mapping and it’s allowing families to not have to travel for services. Federal Hands and Voices program dictates when children should be getting tested and services.  **Barb** – USDA has loans available for individuals and families with very low and moderate incomes. 100% financing is available through one of the programs. USDA is conscious of healthy environment for their clients, so they make sure homes are 100% compliant with health and safety regulations. Therefore, the houses cannot require major maintenance. All of Douglas County qualifies for USDA loans. Banner Bank has a 99% financing program - 97% first mortgage, 2% silent second mortgage that does not get paid until the house sells for a profit. Homebuyers with the loan will need $500 of their own money, the rest could be a gift. Barb is looking to get classes on some of the programs brought to Roseburg to educate families about their home buying options. | **All** |
| **Next meeting** | February 11, 2020 |  |